

Event Vetting

Government employees, particularly high-level officials like United States Attorneys, are subject to ethical restrictions governing the types of events they may attend. Some restrictions relate to benefits, including luncheons, dinners, awards, and tokens of appreciation they may accept. Other restrictions relate, among other things, to participation in events that are sponsored by persons who do business with or lobby the Government; that have a fundraising component; where it may appear that official attendance is being used to promote the event or the sponsor; or where elected officials may be in attendance. To assist us in vetting compliance with government ethical restrictions, we would appreciate it if you could provide the following information. If you do not have specific information for each response, please provide such general or descriptive information as you currently have. Please do not hesitate to call the Office's Government Ethics Advisor, (b)(6), (b)(7)c , at (b)(6), (b)(7)c or e-mail him at (b)(6), (b)(7)c to discuss this.

1. Name, date and time, and location of event.
[The John Jay Iselin Memorial Lecture Series](#)
[Thursday April 6, 2017, 6:30pm lecture followed by reception](#)
[The Great Hall at The Cooper Union](#)
[The Foundation Building, 7 East 7th Street, NY, 10003](#)
2. Format of event (*e.g.*, cocktails; presentations; speeches; and/or meal).
[6:30 – 7:30 Lecture followed by a Q&A if possible](#)
[7:30 –9:00 Private reception with President Laura Sparks and VIP guests](#)
3. Estimated cost per attendee of event.
[Lecture is free and open to the public](#)
4. Are any attendees being charged to attend the event?
[No, admittance into lecture is free](#)
 - If so, who (in general) is being offered free attendance, and who is expected to pay? [The costs associated with the lecture and the reception are paid for by an endowment in the name of former Cooper Union President John Jay Iselin](#)
5. Name of entity extending the invitation and link to web site (if any).
[The Cooper Union. \[www.cooper.edu\]\(http://www.cooper.edu\)](#)
 - Is the entity extending the invitation registered with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist pursuant to Section 1603(a) of Title 2 of the United States Code? [N/A.](#)
6. Sponsor of event if different from above.
 - Is the sponsor of the event registered with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives as a lobbyist pursuant to Section 1603(a) of Title 2 of the United States Code? [N/A](#)

7. Names of additional entities that will be recognized for sponsorship or support of the event. Josephine Lea Iselin, Esq., widow of former Cooper Union President John Jay Iselin, will be acknowledged and thanked.
8. How many persons are expected to attend? 500+ for lecture, 75+ for reception
9. Demographics of expected attendees (e.g., lawyers, law enforcement officials, business leaders, Cooper Union students, students from other local universities and law schools, and other members of the community, etc.) This is a public program and the general public is also invited to attend. The reception will include Cooper Alumni and donors who are business leaders, members of the New York arts and culture community, and other professionals.
10. Are any elected officials expected to attend and, if so, what is their expected role? Not Expected
11. Will there be any political activity at the event (i.e., any activity directed toward the success or failure of a political party, candidate for a partisan political office or partisan political group, for example, any speeches urging people to vote for or against a particular candidate or political party)? No political agenda or activity is planned
12. Is there a fundraising component to the event? (e.g., program advertisements; dinner ticket price; silent auction)? If so, please describe.¹ There is no fundraising component
13. Expected role of U.S. Attorney (e.g., simple attendance; remarks; speech) Mr. Bharara is invited to deliver a lecture on a topic of his choosing that would interest the community at large, and to attend a reception with the current Cooper Union President Laura Sparks and Josephine Lea Iselin.
14. If the U.S. Attorney is being honored: N/A
 - What are the criteria your organization applies to determine who should be honored for this specific award? N/A

¹ For events that involve any fundraising leading up to or during the event: The United States Attorney may not participate in any active fundraising activity with respect to the event. Nor may the U.S. Attorney allow his name, position, or title to be used for any fundraising activity for your organization. If applicable, you may list his name as an awardee and/or speaker on the program and on invitations issued not more than 30 days prior to the event, along with other information about the program. He may not be listed on any “save the date” notices. Failure to comply with these limitations may preclude the U.S. Attorney from appearing at the event. If the U.S. Attorney is giving an official speech, he may be seated and have photos taken as appropriate for a speaker at the event, but you may not use his photo in connection with any other fundraising efforts.

- What is the internal process by which your organization selects potential honorees? [N/A](#)
- For what specific public service or achievement do you wish to honor the U.S. Attorney? [N/A](#)
- Did any of the accomplishments of the U.S. Attorney which you wish to honor directly affect the organization or its members? (Describe.) [N/A](#)
- Do any of the board members or host committee or senior staff have any matters pending before or involving the United States Attorney's Office for the Southern District of New York? [N/A](#)
- Please provide a description and the value of any award item (if the award item is a plaque, certificate or trophy of little intrinsic value, you may so indicate). [N/A](#)
- Who else is expected to be honored at the event? [N/A](#)

15. If the U.S. Attorney is making a presentation, who else is expected to be making a presentation/be on a panel? (President Sparks will introduce him?) [The US Attorney is the only speaker.](#)

- Will the U.S. Attorney be presented with a token or memento in appreciation for his presentation?
 - [X](#) Nothing
 - ☐ Plaque or other memento of little intrinsic value
 - ☐ Other. Please describe, including its value.

16. Describe any special seating arrangements for U.S. Attorney, *e.g.*, dais, general seating (depending on the nature of the event, the U.S. Attorney may or may not be able to accept "dais" seating.) [We will provide reserved seating in the Great Hall for all guests of the US Attorney's office.](#)

17. Promotion of the event: please provide a copy of or link to the invitation/promotional material for the event (or if not available, for the prior year's event). [Attached are invitations/announcements to previous year's events.](#)